



JACK DOYLE

MONROE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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DOYLE HOSTS COMMUNITY ECONOMIC SUMMIT

*Job & Economic Forum to Bring National Experts Together with
Local Business, Corporate and Community Leaders*

County Executive Jack Doyle today announced a Community Economic Summit to focus on future job creation and economic development opportunities. The event will be held on Tuesday, January 29th at the Memorial Art Gallery and numerous local business, corporate and community leaders have been invited to take part. The University of Rochester's Strong Health and the Rochester Business Journal are co-sponsors of the summit.

"In order to ensure strong job opportunities and continued economic growth in Monroe County, we need to be on the cutting-edge of trends and planning," said County Executive Jack Doyle. "We don't want to react to training and education needs after a new business trend has been established, because jobs and employers will be attracted to other communities that are already prepared to meet their needs. We need to work closely with local businesses and educators to ensure that our community and workforce can adapt and thrive in the changing world marketplace."

The half-day Summit will feature panel discussions with local business and community leaders and presentations by two nationally known speakers, author and columnist Virginia Postrel and Dr. Barry Asmus, a senior economist at the National Center for Policy Analysis.

"I envision the Summit as one part of a larger community-wide conversation about our economic future," said Doyle. "We plan to follow this up with town meetings to keep the dialogue going and generate even more ideas from people all across Monroe County. Ultimately, I can envision that this broad cross-section and diversity of ideas will be used as the basis of economic development policies."

The Doyle Administration has consistently sought opportunities to foster economic development partnerships between government, higher education institutions, business, industry, workforce development entities and other organizations.

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Timing for the Summit was seen as ideal given the economic slowdown nationally and the additional economic ramifications of the terrorist tragedy of September 11th.

“Economic development policies have focused on incentives to local businesses to produce goods and services. Those efforts should continue, but as a community we need to find new ways to stimulate the production of ideas, which will expand our community’s rich tradition of technological innovation. We have to consider what else can be done to promote economic growth and create good, high paying jobs in our community and I believe this forum will start the ball rolling on this important effort.”

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